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WHY IS CHRISTIAN MICHEL JAMES STILL IN JAIL, ASKS SC

The AgustaWestland chopper scam accused is kept in jail just because he is a foreign national, the Supreme Court said

COMPLETE DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY, SAYS COURT

How long can he be kept in custody and does his not being an Indian justify "complete deprivation" of his liberty, asked a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha. James is a UK national and was extradited from Dubai in 2018. The bench noted that the co-accused govt officials have been granted bail for want of sanction for prosecution | P9

UNHRC FOUND DETENTION ILLEGAL: COUNSEL

"The maximum sentence for the offence he is charged with is five years and James has been in custody for four years 10 months. Prior to extradition he was in custody for 120 days in Dubai," said advocate Aljo K Joseph appearing for James, claiming his client has approached the UNHRC, which has held the detention as illegal

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LOSS TO THE EXCHEQUER DUE TO THE AGUSTAWESTLAND DEAL, AS PER CBI

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Police take Kannada activists into preventive custody at Hirebagewadi toll plaza on NH-48 near Belagavi on Tuesday | express

Border row heats up, vehicles on both sides stoned

Leaders take potshots at each other, NCP chief Pawar issues threat to K'taka CM, govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Belagavi/Bengaluru/Mumbai

THE Karnataka-Maharashtra border dispute worsened on Tuesday with pro-Kannada and Marathi activists targeting vehicles from each others' states on either side of the interstate border, even as leaders from both the states took potshots and blamed each other over the situation.

Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar, while describing the situation as "worsening" and that the time had come "to take a stand", told reporters in Mumbai, "Maharashtra has taken a stand of observing patience and it is still ready to do that. But even that has a limit. In 24 hours, if the attacks on vehicles are not stopped then this patience will take a different path and the responsibility will be completely on the Karnataka chief minister and the Karnataka government."

The tension heightened at the interstate border on a day when two Maharashtra ministers, Chandrakant Patil and Shambhuj Desai, were supposed to visit Belagavi and hold discussions with pro-Marathi groups. Pro-Kannada organisations, in a show of strength, staged demonstrations in Belagavi against the proposed visit of the ministerial delegation from the neighbouring state. However, the Maharashtra ministers cancelled their visit against which Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had threatened legal action if they did come to Belagavi.

The situation turned tense after a video went viral showing activists of pro-Kannada outfit, Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV), pelting stones at vehicles entering Karnataka with Maharashtra registration numbers at the toll gate at Hirebagewadi near Belagavi on NH-48. P4
ALSO SEE EDIT PAGE | P6

Inflation, quota to dominate Parl session

PREETHA NAIR & RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE winter session of Parliament that begins on Wednesday can be expected to be stormy as the Opposition is gearing up to put the government on the mat over pressing issues like inflation, unemployment, the China-India border dispute and the economically weaker section (EWS) quota.

At an all-party meet on Tuesday, Opposition parties urged the government to ensure wider discussions over burning issues facing the nation. They also demanded a wider discussion over the alleged misuse of central invest-

gative agencies like the CBI and the ED against the Opposition parties. Leaders from more than 30 parties participated in the meeting. The demand for the women's reservation bill will be back in focus as several Opposition parties that had blocked it earlier now want it introduced and passed in this session itself. The matter was raised by the BJD and drew support from the Opposition.

23 DAYS, 17 SITTINGS

The session will have 17 sittings over 23 days and will be held in the existing Parliament House. The Budget session is expected in the new Parliament building

As for the legislative agenda, the government is planning to introduce 16 new bills. The Congress intends to oppose three of them — the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021, Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022, and Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2022. It wants them sent to standing committees for vetting. While the Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill seeks to increase accountability and reform the poll process in multi-state cooperative societies, the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill aims to remove ambiguities, promote plantation in non-forest areas, and conserve forests.



Morocco win the penalty shoot-out, making it to the quarters for the first time | P6

Morocco create history, plot Spanish elimination

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

TWO of Spain's biggest tournament problems, a lack of goalscorers as well as penetrative passing from midfield, once again let them down in a global event. It went down 0-3 in a shoot-out against Morocco in Doha on Tuesday. The Arab side, who advanced to their first-ever quarterfinal, should also be lauded as they were magisterial at the back. It would be tempting to write off this Spain team but they have a very young squad who are at the beginning of a developmental curve. After that win at the 2010 World Cup, they are yet to go past the Round of 16 stage. For Morocco, this will go down as one of their greatest footballing nights of all time. They make no bones about the way they play — defence first before going forward — and it's paved the way for them. P15

HC okays termination of 33-wk pregnancy

'MOTHER'S CHOICE ULTIMATE'

The court said the right of a woman to terminate her pregnancy has been a matter of debate. This right gives the woman the ultimate choice on whether she wants to give birth.

JAISON WILSON @ New Delhi

THE Delhi High Court on Tuesday allowed a married woman to medically terminate her 33-week-old cerebral abnormal foetus, recognising the mother's choice as ultimate decision in such cases.

In the 33-page order, Justice Prathiba M Singh noted there is considerable doubt and risk involved in the unborn child's chances of leading a dignified and self-sustaining life.

"The lingering question as to whether the child would be self-

sustaining or not, tilts the court's mind in favour of the plea of the petitioner," the order said.

The court said that it has clearly been able to gauge the mental trauma affecting the parents, their economic and social conditions, and also the fact that the petitioner is taking a cautious and well-informed decision.

"She has understood as to what termination of pregnancy entails at such an advanced stage. This court is convinced that, as a mother, she has

weighed the same with the unpredictability and the risks involved, considering the condition of the foetus," it said.

The court also observed that the medical board, in the present case, has not been able to predict or give a categorical opinion as to the degree of handicap or as to the quality of life of the child after birth, with certainty.

In the mind of the court, such unpredictability and risks ought to weigh in favour of the woman seeking termination of pregnancy.

3 youths critical as SUV runs over them twice

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

IN a case of road rage, an SUV driver attempted to kill three youths by running over his vehicle on them twice for questioning him why he did not put the indicator on before taking a turn. The victims who sustained serious injuries are battling for their lives at a hospital. After a verbal duel between the SUV driver Darshan and the three youth, Darshan started his car and ran over all the three. As they were still lying on the road, he drove the vehicle in reverse and ran over them again.

The Saraswathipuram police have arrested Darshan, who is in his 20s, on Tuesday, on charges of attempt to murder (IPC sec 307), voluntarily causing hurt (IPC 324) and intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace (IPC 504).

The three youths are Rahul, Prajwal and Anand, who are also in their 20s. Rahul, an MTech graduate received severe injuries on his head and ribs. P5

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